

May 9, 1973

(Start Belt #13)

NOON

SPEAKER: Legislature will come to order. Please indicate your presence. Have you all recorded your presence? Clerk will record.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Mr. President. This morning a number of Senators who are concerned about high water in the North and South Platte Rivers were privileged to have a conference with the Governor of the State of Nebraska and Mr. Johnson who is the head civil responsibility in the State. After a considerable amount of discussion, those who were there left this message with the Governor and if there are those here who do not agree with our presumption, that's all it is, I hope you'll express yourselves. We told him, for example, that obviously we were concerned and interested but we didn't know to the extent that the problem might exist either now or in the future. We suggested to him that he send to us any requests for any amount of money that within his judgment and that of those who advise him in this field and ask us to consider it and we thought probably we would give him whatever appropriation he felt in his judgment, based upon the facts, that he ought to have. We also suggested to him that this body would pass any resolution or do anything to contact the Federal Government or the Corps of Engineers or anything else that might prevent or to help to preclude this catastrophe if it arises. I can say it was our opinion and I'm sure that this problem is probably more serious now than we realize and probably will get more serious as time goes on. It's an accumulation of a lot of facts which I'm sure you don't have the time now to listen to but as an illustration, they indicated in some areas of water--now there are cattle, for example in this area which probably cannot be removed and to some extent it's a similar thing that's happened in other parts of this country. Now the problem we have is to alert the people to make them afraid and conscious of what probably will happen and it's true the individual must assume some of the responsibility himself, particularly in the field of livestock to move it to higher ground whether he thinks he's going to have high water or not because this thing happens very rapidly and sometimes as it apparently now has happened, they cannot get their cattle out of this type of a situation so I only bring this to you with the understanding that this body will cooperate with anything in which he recommends, based upon those who advise him in this specific area in order to protect the people of this State from the ravages of water as it now or may exist in the future. Now there are other Senators there if I have not spoken what they understand to be the facts, I hope they'll respond.

PRESIDENT: Any response? Alright, Clerk has some reports to read in--excuse me--Se, Senator Syas. Alright, fine, go ahead and read the report.

CLERK: Reads report. Unanimous consent asked to print amendments in Journal. (read) Attorney General communication. read.

PRESIDENT: Any other reports or communications on the desk?

CLERK: Appropriations committee report read. That's all, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The Chair would like to acknowledge